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PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

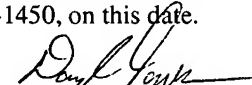
In re Patent Application of: Poole )  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
Conf. No. Not Yet Assigned )  
Filed: December 15, 2003 )  
For: Thermal Ribbon Cartridge Or Roll )  
With Slack Ribbon Retraction )  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned )  
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned )

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on this date.

12-16-03

Date

  
Daryl Jones

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**INTRODUCTION**

This communication is a preliminary amendment for the above-identified patent application, which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 10/141,322, filed May 8, 2002, entitled Thermal Ribbon Cartridge or Roll with Slack Ribbon Retraction, and currently pending. Please enter this preliminary amendment prior to consideration on the merits.